Liberty Science Center: Science for the Future

Since opening its doors in 1992, <u>Liberty Science Center</u> has been a Hudson County staple, introducing a love for science to generations of children. Now, the museum is once again in the spotlight with its newest project, <u>SciTech Scity</u>, a 30-acre innovation campus dedicated to creating the "City of Tomorrow".

The complex broke ground in October 2021 and will launch in phases, with Phase I scheduled to open beginning in late 2023 through 2024. This phase comprises several components, including:

- **Edge Works**, an eight-story incubation hub with a 40,000-SF conference center and tech exhibition gallery, and 60,000-SF of innovative space including research and development labs, co-working space, consumer testing facilities, and offices.
- Liberty Science Center High School, a magnet STEM high school operated by Hudson County Schools of Technology that will provide educational programming in Sustainable Engineering and Climate Science (Earth), Biological Sciences (Life), and Astrophysics (Space) to 400 students in Hudson County. Students will also be able to participate in mentorships with companies and scientists from Edge Works and Liberty Science Center.
- Scholars Village, which will provide housing for scientists, entrepreneurs, and graduate students in the SciTech community. Residents of this complex will also have the opportunity to test out cutting-edge technology within the residences, as it is developed on-campus.
- **Public Commons,** a four-acre outdoor activation and events space which will host performances, concerts, farmers markets, science fairs, and more.

But no need to wait until 2023 to visit! While this exciting new project is underway, here are other great reasons to visit Liberty Science Center:

Exhibitions to Explore

Liberty Science Center offers an array of interactive exhibitions designed to make science fun and interesting for visitors of all ages. Check out the <u>Wild About Animals</u> exhibit to meet 100+ species of animals and learn about their habitats or explore <u>Our Hudson Home</u> to discover the important ecosystems and aquatic residents of the Hudson River.

For the littlest ones, <u>PAW Patrol</u>: Adventure <u>Play</u> allows tykes to solve puzzles and challenges alongside their favorite <u>PAW Patrol</u> characters. In the <u>Wobbly World</u> exhibition, children aged 0-5 learn about balance, motion, and cause and effect while playing with (and on!) a series of whimsical contraptions created by prominent toy designer Cas Holman.

In the <u>Dino Dig Adventure</u> exhibit, aspiring paleontologists can try their hand at a dig, as they uncover fossils from seven dinosaur species, buried in three expansive sand pits. As a bonus, you can find a great view of New York City from this exhibit, located outdoors on the second floor of the museum!

Don't forget to look up when you arrive, or you'll miss the <u>Hoberman Sphere</u> – an installation by artist and engineer Chuck Hoberman. Installed during LSC's opening, this complex globe expands and contracts continuously, and has welcomed and fascinated visitors for years.

Liberty Science Center rotates exhibitions frequently, so be sure to check their website for the newest installations.

Jennifer Chalsty Planetarium

Liberty Science Center is also home to the <u>Jennifer Chalsty Planetarium</u> – America's largest planetarium. The 89-foot full-dome space features an 88-million-pixel screen, a lighting system that produces 281 trillion colors, and 30,000-watt digital sound speakers – all of which add up to a seriously spectacular planetarium experience. Right now there are several shows playing, including <u>Wonders of the Night Sky</u>, <u>Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity</u>, <u>One World</u>, <u>One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure</u>, and <u>Laser Wonderland: A Holiday Lights and Music Show</u>.

Weston Family Lab for Earth and Space Exploration

On the second floor of Liberty Science Center, you'll find the Weston Family Lab for Earth and Space Exploration, a cutting-edge exhibition and laboratory classroom space. The lab is home to *Science on a Sphere*, a six-foot digital globe developed by a team of researchers at NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). This dynamic sphere updates with data directly from NOAA and NASA, allowing educators to demonstrate the impacts of events such as tectonic plate motion, tsunamis, and hurricane paths across the globe in real-time.

LSC After Dark

Why should kids have all the fun? On the third Thursday of every month, LSC opens its doors to young-at-heart adults (21+) for its <u>LSC After Dark Series</u> – an evening of dancing, drinks, and of course, science. Guests can dance the night away with a live DJ, enjoy themed cocktails or cuisine from a variety of local food vendors, and roam the museum exploring the interactive exhibits. Visitors can also catch a planetarium demonstration or themed laser show throughout the evening to round out the experience!

Membership Perks

For true science aficionados, Liberty Science Center offers a membership with great perks, including unlimited admission, discounted theater shows and premium exhibitions, gift shop discounts, exclusive members-only events, and reciprocal admission to 360+ additional science and technology centers around the world via the ASTC Travel Passport. With something new and exciting always in the works at LSC, members will have many reasons to visit!